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"To enrich lives through effective and caring service"

July 28, 2015

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe

FROM: Dave Chittenden 
Chief Deputy Director

SUBJECT: **REPORT ON EMERGENCY REPAIRS NEEDED FOR THE PITCHESS
DETENTION CENTER COGENERATION PLANT GAS TURBINE**

This is to advise your Board of an emergency inspection and repair situation at the Pitchess Detention Center Cogeneration Plant ("CoGen Plant") that occurred on Saturday, July 25, 2015. The repair services are continuing and are expected to be completed by July 28, 2015.

Due the extensive labor likely required to perform inspection and the repairs, we are notifying your Board that the labor/services portion of the repair is expected to exceed the statutory authority of the Purchasing Agent.

The estimated cost of the turbine repair project is \$150,000. Sufficient appropriation for the repairs is included in ISD's Fiscal Year 2015-16 Utilities Budget.

Background

On July 22, 2015 the performance of the CoGen Plant gas turbine engine dropped off dramatically, because of this a scheduled shutdown was arranged to determine the cause of the reduction in power. Air New Zealand (ANZ), one of our CoGen repair vendors, was contacted and requested to conduct an inspection of the internal parts of the turbine. On July 25, 2015 ANZ found the internal liner of the combustor section of the gas turbine had broken away from the body of the combustor and had to be removed from service. ANZ had to disassemble the engine to replace the damaged internal components, which is still in progress and expected to be completed by July 28, 2015.

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The CoGen Plant supplies the primary source of electrical power to the Pitchess Detention Center. The facility is currently operating on Southern California Edison (SCE) supplied power and a loss of this supply impacts reliable operation of the site. If SCE power supply were lost, the Detention Center would operate solely on backup generation sources for electricity supply. Backup generation sources are limited in duration of operation and in reliability of service. Prisoner security operations and general facilities operations (heating, cooling, lighting, etc) are significantly at-risk while operating only on backup generation resources.

Non-performance of the Cogeneration Plant could cause default under the contract and would represent an estimated of \$28k daily or \$10 million annual loss of revenues plus an additional, one-time settlement payment required of the County under the current terms of the contract of around \$20 million.

We will keep your Board apprised of this situation.

If you have any additional questions regarding this matter, please contact me or Howard Choy of my staff, at (323) 267-2006, or via email at: hchoy@isd.lacounty.gov.

DC:HC:sg

c: ISD Board Deputies
Chief Executive Officer
Chief Operating Officer
Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors